

Application No. 10/633,939
Amendment dated September 30, 2005
Reply to Office Action of September 9, 2005
Express Mail No. EV 722667872 US

Remarks:

Claims 1, 4, 8, 11-14, and 16 were previously pending. The Examiner allowed claims 12 and 13 and rejected claims 1, 4, 8, 11, 14, and 16. Applicant has amended independent claims 1, 8, and 14.

In the last Office Action, the Examiner objected to claims 1, 4, 8, 11, 14, and 16 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, ¶ 2 as being indefinite. In particular, the Examiner stated that inclusion of a broad limitation with a narrow limitation renders the claim indefinite. The Examiner noted that independent claims 1, 8, and 14 include both the recitation of “a low friction material interposed between the drive gear and the mount” and “the low friction material interposed between the drive gear and the raised contact points.” Applicant has amended the claims to remove the recitation of “the low friction material interposed between the drive gear and the mount.” Claims 1, 8, and 14 now recite that the low friction material is interposed between the drive gear and the raised contact points and further recites that the raised contact points support the drive gear. Removal of the rejection is thus respectfully requested.

It is noted that the last Office Action was a final action. Because the amendments to the claims are not substantive in that the Examiner need not further review the claims on the merits, entry of the present Amendment without filing of a Request for Continued Examination is respectfully requested. An Advisory Action advising of the Examiner’s response is appreciated.

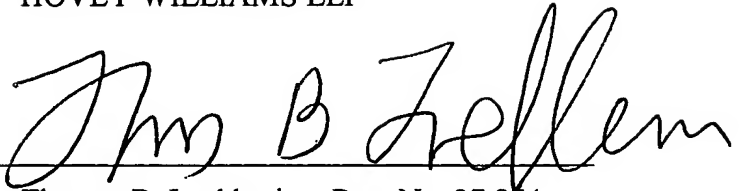
The remaining claims depend, directly or indirectly, from the discussed independent claims and therefore, should be in a condition for allowance.

In view of this response and the remarks herein, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1, 4, 8, 11-14, and 16 are in allowable condition and requests a corresponding Notice of Allowance. In the event of further questions, the Examiner is urged to call the undersigned. Any additional fee which might be due in connection with this application should be applied against our Deposit Account No. 19-0522.

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Respectfully submitted,
HOVEY WILLIAMS LLP

BY:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tom B Luebbering", written over a horizontal line.

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(Docket No. 31286-CIP1)